

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTRODUCING EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SYSTEM AUTHORIZATION ACT

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, today I am very pleased to introduce a bill that will authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to help communities in eastern New Mexico develop the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, ENMRWS. A companion to this bill is being introduced today in the Senate by my colleagues Senator BINGAMAN and Senator DOMENICI. There has long been a recognized need for a reliable and safe supply of potable water for eastern New Mexico. After years of drought and ever-increasing population growth, this water supply project is now absolutely critical for the continued economic well-being of Curry, Roosevelt, and Quay counties in eastern New Mexico.

The Entrada and the Southern High Plains, or Ogallala, aquifers currently provide 100 percent of the municipal and industrial water supplies and the vast majority of agricultural water for communities in these east-central New Mexico counties. However, both the quantity and quality of these ground water reserves have declined severely in recent decades. Despite voluntary conservation efforts and improvements in agricultural water-use efficiencies, these ground water supplies will not sustain current use levels in as little as 12 years, and may be functionally depleted within 25 years.

The water supply project authorized by this legislation builds upon more than 40 years of research, planning, and design. In 1959, after recognizing the water supply problems in eastern New Mexico, the New Mexico Legislature and Interstate Stream passed an Act authorizing the State Engineer to construct a dam on the Canadian River, thus establishing the the Reservoir. Since 1966, numerous congressionally-authorized studies have investigated the feasibility of a project that would utilize the Ute Reservoir as a reliable water supply for communities in eastern New Mexico. Finally, in the late 1990s, several communities, concerned about the increasingly urgent need, came together to begin planning for the development of a regional water system.

The Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Supply Authority, consisting of nine communities in the Curry, Roosevelt and Quay counties of eastern New Mexico, was formed in 2001 to oversee the development of the ENMRWS. This authority has expeditiously and effectively finalized the studies and planning necessary to move forward with this project.

Madam Speaker, as you can see from this brief history, the citizens of eastern New Mexico have both proven the critical need and completed the necessary steps to form the basis for a project of this magnitude. This project is not new, and the need for water is

becoming increasingly more urgent. In fact, I introduced this bill with my New Mexico Colleagues in the Senate in both the 108th and 109th Congresses. In the 108th Congress the Senate Subcommittee on Water and Power in the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a hearing on the bill, which I understand brought out some very positive support and feedback. Since that time, the need for this project has only become greater and support for the venture has continued to increase in the local communities and State government.

Without this project, it is clear that this important region will suffer economically. We cannot stand by and watch vibrant communities dissolve into western ghost towns, especially when solutions exist. I sincerely hope my colleagues will support this legislation and help provide a positive, long-term solution to a pressing water need in the rural West. This legislation represents the important next step toward addressing the overarching issue of water in the and West.

### EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING CREATION OF REFUGEE POPULATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, on April 1st, the House of Representatives approved an important piece of legislation, H. Res. 185, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region. I was proud to support the passage of this legislation because it recognized all those who have suffered during this long-standing conflict. For the first time in my memory, the House of Representatives has gone on record to say that the refugee population in the Middle East is not simply comprised of Palestinians, it is also the 850,000 Jews who have been displaced from Arab countries since the declaration of the State of Israel in 1948. The U.S.-led roadmap to peace specifically calls for an "agreed, just, fair, and realistic solution to the refugee issue;" and in my opinion, and in the unanimous and united opinion of this House, that means Jewish and non-Jewish refugees alike.

Throughout my tenure in the United States Congress, I have seen the U.S. act as a stalwart champion of human rights, and I have seen this House stand up and voice concerns about the treatment of refugees and minorities, as well as concerns on violations of basic human rights throughout the Middle East and elsewhere. As the U.S. continues to play a pivotal role in seeking an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, I urge my colleagues to continue to speak out and re-

mind the world that we must not overlook the Jewish refugee problem in our enthusiasm for peace.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to further this important effort.

### DEDICATION OF THE KATHLEEN SAVAGE BROWNING MINIATURES COLLECTION

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2008, a new educational collection will be unveiled and celebrated at the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center in Maysville, Kentucky.

Chicago's Art Institute and England's Queen Mary's Dolls' House are among the few places in the world where visitors can enjoy expansive collections of miniature buildings and artifacts and Maysville's Kentucky Gateway Museum Center now joins these distinguished institutions. The 3,300 square foot Miniatures Gallery at the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center is now home to an unrivaled collection of thousands of 1/12 scale miniatures thanks to a generous donation from Maysville native and resident Kaye Browning. The collection features historic buildings, homes and monuments, including the ancestral home of Lady Diana Spencer, the Fleece Inn in England and the Cox Building in Maysville.

This collection has been a passion of Ms. Browning's for over thirty years. Her donation to the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center represents a substantial investment in the community and is certain to bring many visitors, both young and old, to Maysville to experience this world-class collection and gallery. I thank Ms. Browning for her incredible gift to the museum and for her tremendous dedication to Maysville and the entire region. I want to thank Lou Browning, her husband and partner in this endeavor and the staff and supporters of the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center who have made it a leader in telling the story of our Commonwealth.

### THE INFANT CRIB SAFETY ACT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Infant Crib Safety Act.

I originally introduced this legislation in 1999 at the request of the Danny Foundation, a national nonprofit organization established after the tragic death of Danny Lineweaver of Alamo, Calif. At the age of 23 months, Danny was injured while trying to climb out of his

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